

MARYLAND MEDICAID ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, November 30, 2017

TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Maryland Department of Health
201 W. Preston Street, Lobby Conference Room L-3
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

**PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO DECEMBER MEETING. MEETINGS WILL
RESUME IN JANUARY 2018 IN ANNAPOLIS**

AGENDA

- I. Departmental Report
- II. Dental Update
- III. Presumptive Eligibility Update
- IV. Local Health Department Inmate Activities Update
- V. Waiver, State Plan and Regulations Changes
- VI. Behavioral Health System Report
- VII. Public Comments
- VIII. Adjournment

Date and Location of Next Meeting:

Monday, January 22, 2018, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Senate Office Building

Education, Health, & Environmental Affairs Committee Room

11 Bladen Street, Second Floor

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Staff Contact: Ms. Carrol Barnes - (410) 767-5213

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Committee members are asked to contact staff if unable to attend

**MARYLAND MEDICAID ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

October 26, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Lesley Wallace
Ms. Susan Phelps
Ms. Shannon Hall
Rachel Dodge, M.D.
Ms. Grace Williams
Ms. Donna Fortson
Mr. Floyd Hartley
Ms. Kerry Lessard
Ms. Vickie Walters
Ms. Michele Douglas
Mr. Vincent DeMarco
Mr. Kevin Lindamood
The Hon. Pat Young
Mr. Ben Steffen
Adeteju Ogunrinde, M.D.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ms. Carmel Roques
Mr. C. David Ward
The Hon. Shirley Nathan-Pulliam
The Hon. Joanne C. Benson
The Hon. Matthew Morgan
The Hon. Joseline Peña-Melnyk
Mr. Norbert Robinson
Ms. Christine Bailey
Ms. Nicolette Smth-Bligen
Judy Lapinski, Pharm.D
Ms. Ann Rasenberger
Ms. Uma Ahluwalia
Winifred Booker, D.D.S

Maryland Medicaid Advisory Committee

October 26, 2017

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

Mr. Kevin Lindamood, Chair, called to order the meeting of the Maryland Medicaid Advisory Committee (MMAC) at 1:10 p.m. Committee members approved the minutes from the September 28, 2017 meeting as written. Mr. Evan Johnson attended for Senator Shirley Nathan-Pulliam and Ms. Edith Perry attended for Delegate Joseline Peña-Melnyk.

Departmental Report

Mr. Dennis Schrader, Secretary, Maryland Department of Health (MDH) gave the Committee the following update:

The Department is very concerned about the reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program. We are tracking it very carefully and will monitor Congress's activities. We have been working with the Congressional delegation on this.

Last week a team of Maryland representatives traveled to Arizona and Colorado to learn how they have integrated somatic health and behavioral health. The Department will provide the Committee with a presentation on that visit at a future meeting.

The Department held its annual meeting with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regional office. The Department also had a meeting last week with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) regarding the renewal of our Medicare contract. The CMMI gave the Department support and feedback. We are hoping to announce this by the end of the year.

A new managed care organization (MCO), Aetna, joined our HealthChoice program and went live this week.

Secretary Schrader introduced his new Chief of Staff, Ms. Dionne Washington.

Enrollment/Mail Returns Update

Ms. Debbie Ruppert, Executive Director, Office of Eligibility Services, informed the Committee that the Department shared with the MCOs that an automation was underway. This automation reflects a process change not a policy change. There are three eligibility criteria in Maryland: 1) you must be a U.S. citizen, 2) you must be a Maryland resident, and 3) you must meet the eligibility criteria. If we don't act on one of the three major components we are out of compliance with the federal government and the state regulations. That being said, there are so many opportunities to automate and create efficiencies. Ms. Ruppert reviewed a fact sheet on Medicaid Mail Returns with the Committee (see attached).

Primary Care Program Update

Howard Haft, M.D., Deputy Secretary for Public Health and interim Executive Director, Maryland Health Benefits Exchange first gave the Committee an update on the open enrollment period. Dr. Haft informed the Committee the Trump Administration has decided to not fund the cost sharing reductions (CSRs). There continues to be some activity in Congress, in the Senate to look for future paths to funding the CSRs.

The state, through the Maryland Insurance Administration, made the decision that because the cost sharing reductions were not going to go to the two insurers who are in the qualified health plans, Care First and Kaiser, according to the statutory requirements, they are obligated to revise those rates because there would be a loss of approximately \$100 million in calendar year 2018. The Exchange is scrambling to incorporate those rates but open enrollment will continue on November 1st and proceed for 45 days as planned until December 15th. There will be an increase on the silver plans on the Exchange for both plans. This increases the amount of the subsidy that goes to those plans. The increase in premiums will appear higher on the Exchange but the vast majority of enrollees will be shielded from any personal increase in the premiums. People are encouraged to shop for their premiums. There should not be a dramatic effect on people who are supported by subsidies or their premiums.

Dr. Haft gave the Committee an overview of the basic nuts and bolts of the Primary Care Program. This process has been ongoing for the past 2-3 years in tandem with the hospitals as they moved forward with the total cost of care model and away from straight fee-for-service (see attached presentation).

Provider Network Director Secret Shopper

Ms. Alyssa Brown, Deputy Director, Planning Administration, gave the Committee a brief update on Departments efforts to verify the accuracy of provider directories in the HealthChoice program (see attached presentation).

Waiver, State Plan and Regulation Changes

Ms. Susan Tucker, Executive Director, Office of Health Services, gave the Committee the highlights of regulations, state plan amendments and waivers.

Regulations – Regulations are going through a regulatory review in the governor's office to see if the Department is implementing regulations that are necessary. In order to forward regulations, agencies have to submit documentation that the regulatory action is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Marylanders or that it is being promulgated pursuant to federal, statutory, or judicial requirements. For a few months, the regulation process stopped while those justifications were reviewed. The process has started to move again.

State Plan Amendments (SPA) – CMS recently approved our nursing facilities SPA.

Waivers – The Department has been busy on the home and community-based waiver front. We have been working on the community settings rules to make sure the residential settings meet

federal standards. In addition, we recently applied for, in collaboration with our Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), two new developmental disabilities waivers. The first, Community Supports, is similar to the big Community Pathways waiver without the residential service component. The other is called Family Supports. It targets under 22 years olds who historically have not received a lot of services through the Community Pathways waiver. These two new waivers are capped money waivers. The DDA hired a consultant who just completed a rate study. They will be publishing the findings soon and doing meetings across the state in November to talk about the findings.

Behavioral Health System Report

Kimberly Cuthrell, J.D., Ph.D., the new Director of Systems Management, Behavioral Health Administration, introduced herself and informed the Committee that she will be providing regular behavioral health updates in the future.

Public Comments

Ms. Pattie Archuleta, Parents Place of Maryland provided comments on the budget update from the September meeting.

Ms. Rachel Faulkner, Public Policy Partners, provided comments on returned mail.

Adjournment

Mr. Lindamood adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.